

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 6599: AN ACT CONCERNING DISCRIMINATION

Glenn Koetzner
Monica Connor
14 Vanishing Brook Lane
Sharon, CT 06069-2452
(860) 364-9844

My wife, Monica Connor, and I moved to Connecticut with our two children over twenty-five years ago. Monica has been employed as a teacher at Sharon Center School for over twenty years, and I am a business owner and privately employed consultant. I am also a member of the Board of Directors of CT TransAdvocacy Coalition.

Most of the time I'm proud to be a resident of Connecticut. I believe that we, as people of this State, try to do the right thing.

Sometimes, like today, I'm hopeful. Today, there is the chance to give residents of this State, my State, the opportunities to pursue their lives without some of the fear of repercussions they suffer due to their gender identity or gender expression.

Things that most of us take for granted--like fairness in housing and equal rights on the job--are not guaranteed to some residents of Connecticut, and it's time we extend to them the same protections.

I want my State to recognize the fact that discrimination is nothing more than adult bullying. I want Connecticut to be a zero-tolerance State when it comes to bullying. It is time to stand up for your fellow residents and pass this bill. Until this bill is passed, we should not pretend that the State of Connecticut is a State embracing equality for all its citizens.

We elect you to lead, and your time to lead us one step closer to real equality is here.

Thank you for your time. Please pass HB 6599: An Act Concerning Discrimination

Glenn Koetzner
Monica Connor